

REMARKS

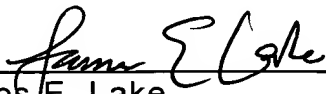
Claims 1-7, 9-35, 39-43, and 45-53 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-7, 9-23, 34, 35, 39-43 and 45-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang in view of Mercaldi (U.S. Patent No. 6,987,073). Claims 24-33 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiang in view of Mercaldi. Applicant requests reconsideration. Applicant notes that Mercaldi qualifies as prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and that the subject matter of Mercaldi and the claimed invention were, at the time the claimed invention was made, owned by Micron Technology, Inc. or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same. Accordingly, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 103(c), Mercaldi shall not preclude patentability. Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections relying upon Mercaldi in the next Office Action.

Applicant herein establishes adequate reasons supporting patentability of claims 1-7, 9-35, 39-43, and 45-53 and requests allowance of all pending claims in the next Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
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